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EDITORIAL STRESSES NEED FOR ALLIANCE  
OF CZECHOSLOVAK WORKERS AND FARMERS

Rude Pravo  
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A continuous increase in the prosperity of the working people is the prime objective of the party and the government. One of the main bases for a higher standard of living is increased agricultural production. The greater the production of agricultural products, the greater will be the consumption of food and other products. For this reason, all farm workers turn their attention and efforts toward increasing the yields and the productivity of animals, which in turn is demanded by the increased consumption of these products. The government is also adopting a series of provisions to ensure higher productivity of work in agriculture, which if systematically followed will result in more food for the tables of the people, and more raw materials both for light industry and for the food industry.

The farmer cannot singlehandedly increase agricultural yields and animal productivity. It is necessary that the working class and industry assist him with higher production of agricultural machines, synthetic fertilizers, building material, and similar products.

Industry's aid is an inseparable component of a permanent increase in agricultural production. For example, the industrial worker's share in improvement of agricultural production increases in proportion to the increased aid of the MTS to the agriculturists. Thus, under the leadership of the working class, the alliance between the workers and the middle and small farmers will be strengthened. Without such an alliance it would be impossible to solve the problems connected with the building of socialism, or to establish the people's democratic order and free the workers from exploitation.

In Czechoslovakia, as elsewhere, the alliance was forged in the stubborn fight against the exploiters even during the days of the pre-Munich republic. The party tenaciously led the fight for the rights of the small and middle farmers against the despotism of the land owners, the share holders, and the manufacturers. When the farmers were shot at, as in 1931 at Kosuty in Slovakia, the working class stood firmly by the side of these inhumanely exploited farmers, whereas the farmers in turn supported the striking miners, as in the strike at Most.

The alliance between the laborers and farmers in their joint battle against domestic exploiters was strengthened and tempered during the days of the Fascist occupation. After the liberation of Czechoslovakia by the Soviet Army, the alliance became the basis for the National Front of the workers, both urban and rural. Through the joint strength of the laborers and the farmers, the counter-revolutionary Putsch of the reactionary forces was broken in February 1948.

The joint efforts of workers and farmers are devoted toward the common goal of unceasingly satisfying the material and cultural needs of society. Thousands of middle and small farmers, led by the working class and firmly leaning on its assistance, began to organize and put in practice new agricultural production processes as the prerequisite for continual increases in agricultural production and a higher living standard for Czechoslovak farmers.

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In the past, the Czechoslovak working class has given the small and middle farmers its best and unselfish assistance, and continues to do so at the present. The government is again increasing investments for agriculture. This has been made possible by the foundation built for Czechoslovak industrial production, a foundation which is the basis for an independent, self-sufficient, and defensible people's democratic republic.

It cannot be overlooked that the development of agricultural production does not measure up to the growth of industrial production. The disparity between industry and agriculture has deepened rather than lessened, and not until now, under socialistic management, has this difference been reconciled. Agriculture is being systematically raised to the same level as industry. In its directives, the government provides for removal of this harmful disparity.

One of the main tasks is the continued development of the mechanization of agriculture. This year agriculture will receive 600 KD-35 caterpillar tractors, 50 combines, manure spreaders, cultivators, tractor-drawn machinery, and other equipment. Plans call for the production of additional machinery in the coming year, as well as deliveries of heavy machines from the USSR. This will further mechanize agricultural work and will show better results for work expended by the farmers. The government plans to increase allotments for investment in agricultural construction. The increase will amount to 350 million crowns in 1953. In addition, credit of another one billion crowns will be extended by the state to the JZD (Jednotné Zemeľské Družstvo, Unified Agricultural Cooperatives).

New cow barns, hog sheds, and poultry houses will spring up in the villages, permitting an increase in animal production. Other evidence of further aid to the farmers appears in the provisions for increases in the purchase price of grain from the 1953 harvest, the increase in prices of slaughter animals and milk, the reduction in prices of cleaned seed and seedlings, bonuses in the purchase price of pigs, etc.

The preponderant majority of cooperatives show clearly that production by the JZD is more economical, and the resultant products are of better quality as compared to production by the individual farmer. It is necessary, however, to remember that more than 50 percent of all agriculture remains in the hands of individual farmers, which makes it evident that if the level of production on these individually operated farms were increased, the entire supply program would benefit. For this reason, it is necessary to help individual farm operators increase their per-hectare yields and assist them in increasing the productivity of their animals.

Such a policy requires the inseparable alliance of the working class with the working farmer.

This must be understood by kraj and okres functionaries. The farmer who is a JZD member has been given different treatment from that accorded to the small or middle independent farmer. Such preferential treatment was by no means an isolated incident. All independent farmers were lumped into one category, whether they were kulaks, criminals, and saboteurs, or whether they were small, honest, and dependable agriculturists.

The case of Josef Uher will illustrate this point. Uher is a farmer in Pabnice, Kutna Hora Okres, who operates a farm of 5 hectares. The ONV (Okresní Národní Výbor, Okres National Committee) in Kutna Hora recently unjustly confiscated his entire litter of pigs, only because farmers in the vicinity had demanded his pigs, which were well-cared for.

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A great many of our functionaries will have to have their attitudes clarified for them. Lenin and Stalin in their works unceasingly stress that despite the fact that in good years the middle farmer expands his operations and may occasionally employ day labor, he nonetheless remains the ally of the worker, because he is also a worker, and as such has also been exploited by the village rich and other agrarian capitalists.

Hence, the tendency to separate the small as well as middle farmers into a class separate from the working class is absolutely unfair and harmful to the building of socialism. It is evident that even the middle farmer, who has not as yet grasped the advantages of the JZD methods of farming, is nevertheless an ally of the worker. In a letter addressed to the JZD, Comrade Gottwald clearly said that the attitude of the workers should be one of "friendship, patient explanation, and persistent recruitment, but not enmity, denunciation, or isolation." The small and middle farmer is not necessarily the enemy of socialism simply because he has not as yet found his way to farming in the JZD. The proof of this statement is in the fact that thousands of small and middle farmers fulfill their delivery quotas well and on time. In Vajglav Otoc in Rymarov for instance, private farmers fulfilled their delivery quotas of grain by 104 percent, in Sovinec 103 percent, etc.

The reason that these farmers have not yet entered the JZD is quite often due to the bad example set by some cooperatives, and more often by the unjust actions of the JZD functionaries, national committees, and party organizations, who, instead of persuading them, make the mistake of ordering them around.

By comparison, there are some exemplary functionaries such as Comrade Otreda, chairman of the MNV (Místní Národní Výbor, Local National Committee) in Veselí, Nachod Okres, who, by his persistent persuasion and publicizing of the cooperative's successes, influenced six additional farmers to join the JZD. In a similar case in Jeseník nad Odrou, nine independent farmers joined the JZD after this year's harvest.

According to Lenin and Stalin, that the road to socialism is one of a constantly increasing class struggle, and this teaching is reiterated by Comrade Gottwald. Hence the importance of the close bond of the workers with the small and middle farmers has its basis in the class fight against the remnants of the discredited exploiters. The last but still strong bourgeois remnant of capitalist exploiters in the villages are the kulaks, who try in any different way to hide their true nature. By the use of this method, they represent the small landowner and the rentier, but in reality the kulaks are more treacherous. Therefore, the alliance between the worker and the working farmer is founded on the battle against the capitalist elements in the country, the kulaks.

All enemies of the people's democratic republic, particularly the criminal gangster band, have had and still have the plan of destroying the unity of the people and the alliance between the worker and the working farmer. They are very well aware of the strength of this alliance. The resolutions and proclamations of the government still further support and strengthen this alliance, and by it strike a great blow at the plans of internal and foreign enemies. The principal effort must be the systematic fulfillment by all of our working people of all designated tasks.

The alliance between the workers and the farmers, which is based on the building of socialism in the agrarian sector, is the important class struggle against the bourgeois remnants in the country, is seen today in the exchange of products when the city sends the products to the country, and the country sends

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its agricultural products to the city. The alliance must be strengthened continually. If this is done, success will be greater and the words of Comrade Gottwald, spoken at the conference of agricultural commissions in February 1948, will become a reality: "Worker for the farmer, the farmer for the worker; wherever the world moves this strength will show."

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